1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Daman & Diu	1991	101,586	89,153	9,048	2,904	31	—
			100 00	87.76	8.91	2.86	0.03	—
		1971	62,651	54,093	5,770	2,383	—	—
			100.00	86.34	9.21	3.80	(—)	—
5.	Delhi	1991	9,420,644	7,892,164	889,641	83,152	13,906	41
			100.00	83.67	9.44	0.88	0.15	0.00
		1971	4,065,698	3,407,835	263,019	43,720	8,720	302
			100.00	83.82	6.47	1.08	0.21	0.01
6.	Lakshdweep	1991	51,707	2,337	48,765	598	1	1
			100.00	4.52	94.31	1.16	0.00	0.00
		1971	31,810	1,545	30,019	239	—	—
			100.00	4.86	94.37	0.75	—	—
7.	Pondicherry	1991	807,785	695,981	52,867	58,362	39	3
			100.00	86.16	6.54	7.22	0.00	0.00
		1971	471,707	400,793	29,143	41,296	21	11
			100.00	84.97	6.18	8.75	0.00	0.00

Notes: 1. No Census was conducted in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991 due to disturbed conditions.
2. Total Population includes figures of 'Sikhs', 'Jains', 'Other Religions and Persuasions' and 'Religion Not Stated'.
3. *Figures of Zoroastrian/Zoroastrianism (Parsi) in respect of Daman & Diu have been shown against Goa.
4. Percentage to total population for each religion has been given below the absolute figures.

[English]

Price of Essential Commodities

1059. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is steep increase in the prices of essential commodities viz. Wheat, Rice, Mango, Banana, Coffee, Tea and others during the last four months;

(b) if so, the percentage increase in the prices of the said commodities during the said period;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to check the increase in the prices of essential commodities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the last four months there was a marginal increase in the general level of prices of commodities as represented by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) numbers of all commodities. Percentage variations in the wholesale price indices of rice, wheat, mango, banana, coffee, tea and all commodities during the past 4 months ending 5.7.97 (between the 8.3.97 and 5.7.97) are as under:—

Rice	:	3.7
Wheat	:	– 18.3
Mango	:	0.0
Banana	:	10.1
Coffee	:	1.2
Tea	:	36.3
All commodities	:	1.2

(c) and (d) The Government has been taking a number of steps to control the prices of essential commodities. Apart from certain long term measures to increase the production of essential commodities, imports of commodities which are in short supply are encouraged to augment the availability of these items. Some of the commodities are also supplied through the Public Distribution System and Cooperative Stores at prices which are below market levels. Stringent actions are being taken against hoarders and black marketeers and others indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act by the State/UT Governments.

Project on Street Children

1060. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined any project on street children with a view to educate and rehabilitate them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage at which the project stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The Scheme for Welfare of Street Children is an ongoing programme of the Government which aims to provide integrated community based non-institutional basic services for the care, protection and development of Street Children facing destitution, neglect, abuse and exploitation. Under the Scheme Grants in aid upto 90% of the cost of the project are provided to Non-Governmental Organisations for establishing projects for 300 Street Children each. The essential components of each Project include provision of nutrition, literacy, vocational training, counselling and preventive health services to Street Children. The Scheme is currently being implemented in 23 cities of the country.

Cultivation of Black Pepper

1061. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the cultivation of black pepper;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research has been made on "Silt Wilt" which is affecting the black pepper cultivation; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is implementing a scheme on integrated programme for development of spices at an outlay of Rs. 1123.75 lakhs for black pepper development during the year 1997-98. The scheme includes programmes on production and distribution of quality planting material, rehabilitation of old pepper gardens, adoption of plant protection measures and transfer of technology through demonstration etc.

(c) and (d) There is no Silt-Wilt disease in black pepper. However, there is a slow wild disease affecting black pepper. The research findings have suggested following control measures:

(I) Selective application of Phorate @ 30 gram/ Vine twice a year reduce the disease severely.

(II) Application of Neem Cake @ 1 Kg/Vine also improves the health of the Vine, continuous application of organics would reduce the pathogen population.

(III) Raising of a hygienic nursery ensuring disease free rooted cuttings is the recommended strategy.

(IV) For *Phytophthora Capsici* drenching the base of the pepper vines with cooper Oxychloride (0.2%) during pre- and Post-Monsoon period is recommended to reduce the disease.

(V) Foliar spraying with Bordeaux mixture (1%) to check foliar infection caused by *P. Capsici* is also recommended.

Installation of Bore Wells and Hand-Pumps in Tamil Nadu

1062. SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: